

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An position authentication system, comprising:

portable electronic equipment including at least position information detecting-and transmitting-means for detecting current position information, encrypting the position information and transmitting the encrypted position information to the outside, and storage means for storing reception data; and

a center system for receiving the position information transmitted from said electronic equipment, authenticating the position information, generating place-specifying data indicated by the position information thus authenticated and then performing a copy guard-processing on the place-specifying data, and transmitting the place-specifying data thus processed to said electronic equipment which has transmitted the position information, thereby storing the place-specifying data into said storage means of said electronic equipment.

2. (original) The position authentication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said center system comprises an authentication unit for receiving the position information which is encrypted and transmitted by said electronic equipment, and authenticating whether the position

information received can be decoded or not; a place-specifying data base for accepting the position information decoded by said authentication unit, and outputting place-specifying data representing the place indicated by the position information; and a copy guard device for subjecting the place-specifying data to the copy guard-processing and then transmitting the place-specifying data to said electronic equipment.

3. (original) The position authentication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said position information detecting-and transmitting-means detect the position information and time information, and said center system subjects to a copy guard-processing the signal obtained by adding the place-specifying data to the time information and transmits the copy-guarded signal to said electronic equipment to store the copy-guarded signal in said storage means of said electronic equipment.

4. (original) A position authentication system, comprising:

an electronic equipment including image data-generating means for photographing a desired subject to generate image data, position information detecting means for detecting current position information, transmitting means for encrypting and transmitting the image data and position information, and storage means for storing reception signals; and

a center system including receiving means for receiving the position information and image data transmitted from said electronic equipment, authenticating means for authenticating whether the position information and image data thus received can be decoded, place specifying

data-generating means for generating place-specifying data indicated by the authenticated position information, and copy guard-processing means for adding the place-specifying data to the image data received, subjecting the data to a copy guard-processing and transmitting the copy guard-processed data to said electronic equipment to store the data into said storage means of said electronic equipment.

5. (original) An electronic equipment for use in a position authentication system, comprising:

position information detecting-and transmitting-means for detecting current position information, encrypting the position information and then transmitting the encrypted position information to a center system; and

storage means for receiving the place-specifying data which is generated on the basis of the position information decoded and subjected to a copy guard-processing by said center system, and transmitted from said center system, and storing the received data.

6. (original) The electronic equipment as claimed in claim 5, wherein said position information detecting-and transmitting-means is a GPS receiver for receiving a GPS signal transmitted from a GPS satellite group to obtain latitude/longitude information as the position information, encrypting the position information and then transmitting the encrypted position information.

7. (previously presented): A method for authenticating a position of an image comprising:

detecting current position information, encrypting the position information and image data and transmitting the encrypted position information and image data;

receiving the encrypted and transmitted position information and image data, authenticating the position information and image data; generating place-specifying data indicated by the position information thus authenticated and then performing a copy guard-processing that adds the place-specifying data to the image data; and

transmitting the copy-guarded and combined place-specifying data with image data thus processed to a storage medium.

8. (previously presented): A center system for use in a position authentication system, comprising:

an authentication unit for receiving position information transmitted from an electronic equipment and authenticating the position information; and

means for generating place-specifying data indicated by the position information authenticated, performing a copy guard-processing on the place-specifying data and transmitting the processed place-specifying data to said electronic equipment.

9. (new): An electronic equipment for use in a position authentication system, comprising:

a position information detecting and transmitting element for detecting current position information, encrypting the position information, and then transmitting the encrypted information to a center system; and

a storage element for receiving place specifying data which is generated on the basis of the position information decoded and subjected to a copy-guard processing by said center system, and transmitted from said center system, and storing the receiving data,

wherein said position information detecting and transmitting element encrypts the position information on the basis of an encryption key which is predetermined for said position information.

10. (new): A center system for use in a position authentication system, comprising:

an authentication unit for receiving position information transmitted from electronic equipment and authenticating the position information; and

an element for generating place-specifying data indicated by the position information authenticated, performing a copy guard processing on the place specifying data and transmitting the processed place-specifying data to said electronic equipment,

wherein the position information transmitted from said electronic equipment is encrypted on the basis of an encrypted key which is predetermined for said position information, and said authentication unit authenticates the position information according to whether the encrypted position information is decoded or not in accordance with the encryption of said position information.